

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**OFFICE OF CENTRAL REFERENCE**

16 February 1959

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Assistant to DD/I (Planning)

**SUBJECT :** Information on the Intelligence Subject Code (ISC)  
for Continental Army Command

1. The attached study of CIA's Intelligence Subject Code was prepared late in 1957 by a Working Group of the United States Intelligence Board, Committee on Documentation. By direction of that Committee, a small CIA staff then spent the next 12 months in preparing a comprehensive revision of the Code based on its experience during ten years of use of the Code, on advice from the intelligence community and on consultation with a classification expert from the Library of Congress. The revised draft was distributed to the community for comment in January. It is expected that the final version will be published sometime during the coming summer.

2. In the meantime, CIA has acquired a set of Minicard information storage and retrieval equipment which will receive extensive testing throughout 1959 using 25,000 documents coded according to the revised Intelligence Subject Code. Documentation personnel throughout the U.S. intelligence organizations are being invited to follow the experiment closely.

3. Should COMARC wish to investigate the ISC further, we suggest that they arrange to have a representative spend a day with our staff for briefings and a tour of our installation.

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Special Assistant to the AD  
Central Reference

**Attachment**

**Distribution:**

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